



# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Paul Krutko

**SUBJECT:** Google Fiber for Communities RFI

**DATE:** March 9, 2010

Approved

Date

3/11/10

**COUNCIL DISTRICT:** Citywide

## **REASON FOR ADDENDUM**

This item is being added to the Council Agenda outside of the normal process due to the March 26<sup>th</sup> RFI response deadline, and to share with Council and the public information about the Google Fiber for Communities Initiative.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to submit a response to the Google Fiber for Communities Request for Information (RFI) in accordance with the guidelines discussed in this report.

## **OUTCOME**

Approval of this recommendation will authorize staff to respond to the Google Fiber for Communities RFI, and facilitate community outreach to gage community support for fiber trial which seeks to bring ultra-high speed broadband networks to one or more trial locations across the country.

## **BACKGROUND**

Under the title "Google Fiber for Communities" Google, Inc. has issued a Request for Information (RFI) in an effort to build and test ultra-high speed broadband networks in a small number of trial locations across the country that would provide internet access at speeds more than 100 times faster than most Americans have access to today (1 gigabit per second fiber-to-the home connection). Google plans to offer service at competitive prices to at least 50,000 and potentially up to 500,000 people. The RFI invites interested communities to submit detailed

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information about themselves to help Google to determine if it would like to locate a project in the community.

The City has assembled a team of people from the Public Works and Information Technology Departments, Office of Economic Development and the City Attorney's Office to respond to the RFI. The City will provide background information with regard to the availability of utility poles, underground street right of way and existing fiber conduit as well as other construction requirements and regulatory issues. City staff would like to respond in a manner that indicates a great willingness to minimize time, cost and procedures for purposes of this pilot. For example, we would represent that the City would offer the use by this pilot project of the City's existing conduit at minimal or no rent to the extent possible. In addition, we would commit to reducing turn around times on negotiations of agreements and processing of permits. The response to the RFI is due March 26<sup>th</sup>.

The RFI requests responding cities to ascertain community support for the Google Fiber Initiative. The City will facilitate outreach to the community to generate interest and support for this exciting pilot. Staff will work with the Mayor and Council Offices on outreach efforts, as well as with the Neighborhood Development Commission, and the Neighborhood Development Center. The City established a web-page with a link to the residents and community groups section of the RFI in order to gauge community interest for the pilot. The link to the community outreach campaign "Get Wired up San Jose!" is available at <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/getwiredup.asp>

The RFI highlights the potential of ultra-high-speed bandwidth to drive innovation in high definition video, remote data storage, real-time multimedia collaboration as well as countless other next generation applications that will reach residents and businesses alike. Unsurprisingly, the solicitation has garnered great interest around the nation and the world - as Google once again accelerates the dialogue of how transformational ideas and technologies (often finding their origins in Silicon Valley), have the ability to mobilize communities. San Jose is the Capital of Silicon Valley, a global gateway, racially and ethnically diverse, and known world-wide for its spirit and practice of innovation. The City salutes Google's innovative efforts and leadership; they have revolutionized how the world searches for information, their vision of access to information at vastly improved speeds creates infinite possibilities.

### **EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP**

Staff will provide updates to the Council through the City Manager's weekly report.

### **POLICY ALTERNATIVES**

Not Applicable.

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST**

Given the need for specialized community participation in the project outreach will be conducted as described in the memo above.

- ☐ **Criterion 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater.  
**(Required: Website Posting)**
- ☐ **Criterion 2:** Adoption of a new or revised policy that may have implications for public health, safety, quality of life, or financial/economic vitality of the City. **(Required: E-mail and Website Posting)**
- ☐ **Criterion 3:** Consideration of proposed changes to service delivery, programs, staffing that may have impacts to community services and have been identified by staff, Council or a Community group that requires special outreach. **(Required: E-mail, Website Posting, Community Meetings, Notice in appropriate newspapers)**

### **COORDINATION**

This memo has been coordinated with Public Works and Information Technology Departments, Office of Economic Development and the City Attorney's Office.

### **CEQA**

CEQA: Statutorily Exempt, CEQA Guidelines Section 15262.

  
PAUL KRUTKO  
Chief Development Officer

For questions please contact Scott Green, Senior Executive Analyst, at 535-8169.